

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Please reconsider the application in view of the above amendments and following remarks. Claims 1 and 4-7 remain pending with claims 7 having been newly added.

Response to Claim objections

Claims 2 and 6 were objected to due to informalities. Claim 2 has been canceled and claim 6 has been amended to recite an “application builder.” Accordingly, the objections have been overcome or are moot.

Response to §103 rejections

Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection of independent claim 1 as obvious over U.S. 6,643,555 (“Eller”) in view of U.S. 2003/0164240 (“Vinegar”), as these references fail to provide or disclose all of the claimed elements and, as such, a *prima facie* case of obviousness has not been established.

In particular, claim 1 includes an installation designer that defines the hardware and software configuration in the form of software modules in such a manner that the modules can be added, deleted or modified. This feature provides a great deal of flexibility in adapting the system to new hardware configurations. This is pointed out in the current application which states that “each SCADA application is specific to each well, the job of maintaining the applications in a field of many wells becomes correspondingly large with updates, modifications or additions of functionality.” Paragraph [0002]. As best understood, the Eller system appears to be

hindered by this same problem. As noted in Eller, the system “reduces the time required for the development of the applications software.” Column 7 lines 15-18. Eller goes on to state that the “generator [can] provide a tool to define the new objects...for subsequent re-use,” but fails to consider or teach that the newly defined object can be added, modified or deleted from the application software. As such, Eller may have a library of objects for subsequent re-use, but Eller has to re-build the application in order to use them. In other words, Eller cannot modify or change the modules of an existing application software, but has to build a separate application from the existing library in order to accommodate a different hardware set-up. In contrast, the present claims permit modifications of the modules and, hence, the system can easily be adapted to different and changing hardware configurations. Thus, applicant respectfully requests the withdrawal of the rejection of claim 1 and its dependent claims as obvious over Eller in view of Vinegar.

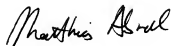
New Claims

Claim 7 is novel and non-obvious over the cited art, for at least the same reasons as stated above.

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue. Please apply any charges not covered, including the one month extension fee, or any credits, to Deposit Account 50-2183 (Reference Number 21.1129US).

Respectfully submitted,

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